

A man wearing a yellow helmet and a blue life vest is paddling a white and green kayak down a river. The kayak has "CASA" and "MORRIS" written on it. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a riverbank with green trees and a blue sky.

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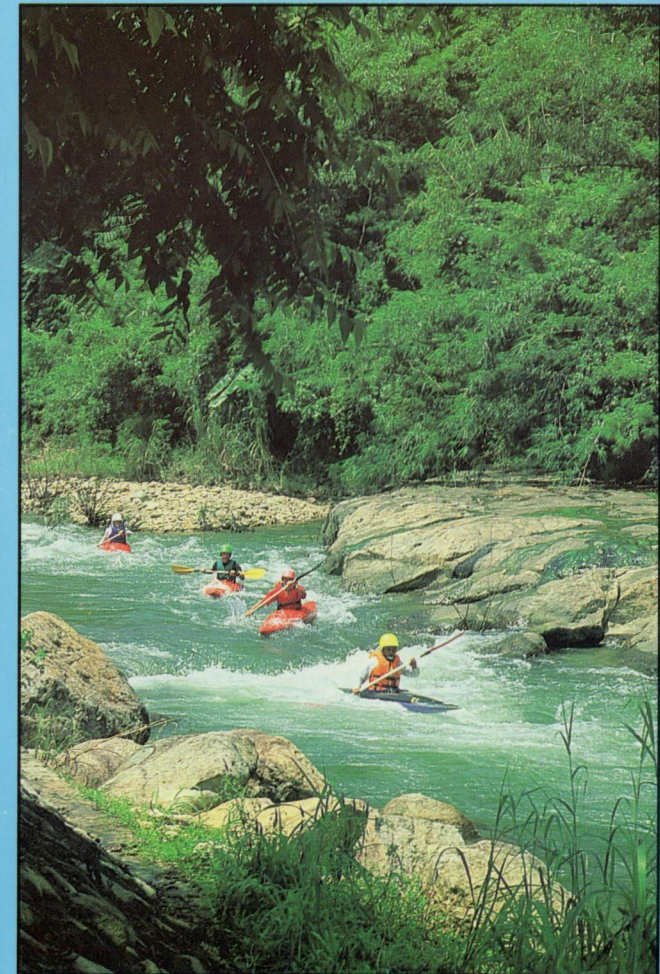
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Introduction

Nakhon Nayok, a city in the Central Plain, is well-known for its beautiful nature. Within this province is the reputed Khao Yai National Park that is fully replete with forest where the sources of the waterways of the region can be found; for example, Khlong Madeua, Khlong Takein, Khlong Wangtakrai, Khlong Nangrong, and Khlong Tha Daan. These canals flow into the Nakhon Nayok River. Along both sides of the river, there is beautiful breath-taking scenery. It is because of these natural features that rapid water canoeing is able to be organised for everyone's enjoyment.

This sport was first introduced in Nakhon Nayok in 1993., and it has become increasingly popular. From the Sarika Canoe Club, it is possible to canoe along the various waterways. The further you go, the more you will enjoy exploring this fantastic natural wonderland in which the only way is to come and see it for yourself. Canoeing is an exciting watersport. The conditions of the water for canoeing in Nakhon Nayok are classified as Rapid Class 1-3.

The various routes within the area fall under these 3 categories which allow visitors to

experience something unique to this part of Thailand. Standard canoes and kayaks, which are appropriate for undertaking this kind of activity, are used. The best time to come and experience this adventure is from June to October.

The canoeing routes and costs are as follows:

1. Sarika Coffee Plantation - Wangtakrai Bridge: distance - 2 km.; cost per person - 250 Baht.
2. Sarika Coffee Plantation - Ban Dong: distance - 3 km.; cost per person - 300 Baht.
3. Sarika Coffee Plantation - Sam Chan Rapids: distance - 5 km.; cost per person - 500 Baht.
4. Wangtakrai Bridge - Sam Chan Rapids: distance - 3 km.; cost per person - 300 Baht.
5. Wangtakrai Bridge - Wang Kutapha: distance - 4 km.; cost per person - 350 Baht.
6. Tha Daan Bridge - Sam Chan Rapids: distance - 3 km.; cost per person - 250 Baht.
7. Tha Daan Bridge - Wang Kutapha: distance - 4.5 km.; cost per person - 350 Baht.
8. Wangtakrai Bridge - Wang Yaow: distance - 6.5 km.; cost per person - 400 Baht.
9. Tha Daan Bridge - Wang Yaow: distance - 6.5 km.; cost per person - 400 Baht.

(prices include boat, helmet and life-jacket)

Canoeing can be enjoyed every Saturday and Sunday from 08.30 A.M. to 04.00 P.M. During Monday to Friday, there must be a group of at least 5 people, and bookings must be made 3 days in advance.

Conditions

People who have never been canoeing before will receive at least 1 hour of instruction. The cost of instruction - 100 Baht per person.

- Must be able to swim.
- Must be over 12 years of age.

How To Get There

By Bus - Buses leave the Northern Bus Terminal (Morchit) on Phaholyothin Road (Tel: 272-0229 and 272-0330) every 30 minutes from 5.30 A.M. to 8.30 P.M. throughout the day. Air-conditioned coaches cost 65 Baht per single journey; ordinary buses cost 37 Baht.

By Car - The shorter route, following the Rangsit Irrigation Canal, is 106 km. The longer route via Highway 33 (Suwannason Road) is 137 km.